



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2852
Examiner: Ms. Sandra L. Brase

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant(s) : Ryuji NISHIYAMA

Filed : December 27, 2001

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Attorney Ref. : HAN 125NP

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to continued examination of the above-identified application by virtue of a Request for a CPA that is being filed concurrently, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly add new claims 10 and 11, as follows:

10. (New) An improved image forming apparatus of the type that includes thermal fixing means having a fixing roller and heating means for heating said fixing roller, temperature detecting means for detecting a temperature of said fixing roller, and temperature control means for controlling power supplied to said heating means and controlling the temperature of said fixing roller based on a signal from said temperature detecting means, wherein the improvement comprises:

number of sheets storing means for storing the number of passing sheets upon a previous continuous-image-formation;
counter means for counting a passing time from the end time of the previous continuous-image-formation;

#18 Pre Amended
Amended
5/21/03
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APR 29 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT